

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION VIII

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ROCKY FLATS PLANT
SEP 22 1994 ORRESPONDENCE CONTRO

Mr. Steve Slaten

Department of Energy

Rocky Flats Office

P.O. Box 928

Golden, Colorado 80402-0928

RE: Building 881 Footing Drain Discharge

Dear Mr. Slaten:

EPA has reviewed DOE's report titled "Water Quality Evaluation of Building 881 Footing Drain Discharge with Recommendation for Discontinued Treatment". The data presented in this report indicates that continued collection and treatment of the Building 881 Footing Drain Discharge is unnecessary. Contaminant concentrations in this water have been shown to be consistently at or below the standards identified as ARARS in the Interim Measures/Interim Remedial Action Plan and Decision Document; 881 Hillside Area, Operable Unit No. 1, with-only rare exceptions.

As you have stated in previous correspondence, water from this footing drain effectively dilutes contaminated ground water from the vicinity of IHSS 119.1 that is also being collected by the french drain. EPA agrees that this dilution is interfering with the evaluation of the effectiveness of the french drain and water treatment facility in treating ground water at OU 1. Such an evaluation is an essential step in determining the final remedy for this operable unit.

The recommendation of this report is that the untreated Building 881 footing drain water be discharged directly to the South Interceptor Ditch and that this discharge be monitored for VOC concentrations. EPA hereby approves the untreated discharge of the Building 881 footing drain water, on the condition that this discharge is sampled on a quarterly basis and that these samples are analyzed for the full suite of volatile organic compounds, filtered and unfiltered metals, filtered and unfiltered radionuclides, and water quality parameters listed in GRRASP (Sept. 1990). The analytical results from these samples must be included in the quarterly reports of the OU 1 IM/IRA.

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Reviewed for Addressee Corres. Control RFP

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Ref Ltr. #

DOE ORDER # 5400.1

In 1993, DOE replanted a wetland area in OU 1 that had been largely destroyed by the construction of the french drain. This area was previously established as a wetland due to the water from the Building 881 Footing Drain that discharged to the hillside in this vicinity. Since the replanting, there has not been a continuous source of water for this wetland and

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consequently, its survival is questionable. EPA strongly recommends that all or part of the Building 881 Footing Drain water be routed through this wetland area, so as to improve its chances of survival.

If you have any questions concerning these matters, please contact Gary Kleeman of my staff at 294-1071.

Sincerely,

Martin Hestmark, Manager Rocky Flats Project

CC: Scott Grace, DOE
 Zeke Houk, EG&G
 Jeff Swanson, CDH
 Joe Schieffelin, CDH
 Tim Reeves, AEI
 Mark Burmeister, EG&G